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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Retirees asked to return hundreds of thousands in overpayments

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

A group of CNMI retirees have formed the CNMI Retirees Association to give government retirees a voice against actions taken by the Settlement Funds to collect “overpaid” benefits due to compensation for overtime hours.

See **RETIREEES** on Page 4

Island-wide power outage caused by unexpected engine shutdown

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. says that the island-wide power outage last Wednesday morning was caused by an unexpected shutdown of one of CUC's engines.

Last Wednesday morning, Saipan experienced yet

another island-wide power outage that lasted nearly two hours.



Watson

The last island-wide outage was seen just a few weeks prior on Sept. 15.

According to CUC executive director Kevin Watson, the island-wide power

See **OUTAGE** on Page 4

‘Officers should be held at a high standard’

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
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CORRESPONDENT



CHRYSTAL MARINO

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Anthony Macaranas, second from left, speaks to the media yesterday at the DPS Central in Susupe.

In light of a police officer being accused of pointing a gun at a suspect, Department of Public Safety Commissioner Anthony Macaranas said he does not tolerate misconduct among his ranks and that DPS should be held at a high standard.

“I do not tolerate any misconduct, police misconduct, especially in the face of the community. We are held at a high standard to assure that the public is well protected by officers that took the oath

See **OFFICERS** on Page 4

DPS to open San Roque substation

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
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CORRESPONDENT

In a move to strengthen public safety efforts across the island, Department of Public Safety

Commissioner Anthony Macaranas announced yesterday that a new substation in San Roque will officially open this Sunday.

Macaranas told the media



Macaranas

that the opening aims to extend police presence to the north side of Saipan, offering quicker response

times to areas further north such as San Roque, As Matuis, and Marpi.

“Right now, should anything happen in San Roque, As Matuis, and Marpi, it would take a few minutes for

See **DPS** on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

A recent consumer report in South Korea ranks the Marianas among the Top 10 most satisfying destinations worldwide among both domestic and overseas travelers.

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BUSINESS

Glenna Sakis Palacios, a contractor to Headquarters Pacific Air Force at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, will lead a session on federal contracting during Day 3 of the Women's Entrepreneurship Project Cohort 4 training series.

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LIFE & STYLE

Tourism in Orlando rapidly came to a standstill Wednesday with the main airport and at least three theme parks and other businesses set to shut down, leaving Florida residents and visitors fleeing Hurricane Milton to hunker down in area hotels.

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Local

Delegate candidates quizzed about closing businesses

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
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CORRESPONDENT

First of a series

A businessman quizzed the five candidates running for the CNMI delegate seat in the U.S. House of Representatives last Wednesday night during the Marianas Business Network town hall forum at Tom Yum Restaurant & Karaoke Bar in San Antonio.

Last Shot Bar owner Travis Jones expressed concerns about the challenges currently faced by the CNMI as he emphasized the need for urgent action to support businesses and prevent closures.

"I want everybody to hear it coming from me, not coming from a moderator asking my question. I'm watching businesses fail. I know it takes time to get tourism [going], I know it takes time to get grants, but I'm watching these businesses close. I'm watching friends close their business. So, I'm asking not what do we do in the next six months, I am asking what do we do to keep these businesses open for the next six weeks?"

Each candidate was given two minutes to respond and Liana Hofschneider, an independent candidate, said the CNMI economy can improve by bringing back Japanese tourists via education and cultural exchange programs as well as getting small community technical grants specifically the Tuition Assistance program grant.

Another independent candidate, John Oliver Gonzales, said he wants to push the CNMI local government to ramp up infrastructure spending to jumpstart the economy and add multiplier effects as well as bolster consumer and business confi-

dence with incentives. He also wants the Commonwealth to emulate what works in Guam and Tinian.

Edwin K. Propst, who is running under the Democratic Party of the NMI, mentioned the \$3.6 billion allocated for the missile defense of Guam and the Tinian divert airfield. He also wants to serve in the U.S. House Armed Services Committee to ensure a fair share of U.S. Department of Defense monies and make sure the CNMI has the same protections as Guam against foreign threats.

Jim Rayphand, another independent candidate, said issues dovetail into other issues like the economy, military, and education. He said everyone should keep in mind what authority the delegate has in crafting policy and infusing funding, adding that if he becomes the CNMI delegate to U.S. Congress he will try and ensure the CNMI is included in funding streams and that he will develop new industries via policy.

CNMI Republican Party bet Kimberly King-Hinds, meanwhile, said the local economy was strongest when the tourism industry was paired with garment industry and later when the tourism industry was paired with the casino industry.

She said, generally, the CNMI economic situation is self-inflicted. She said the government chose to ignore a tourism market due to geopolitical tensions. She called for the restoration of Annex 6 (unlimited flights from China) and said the CNMI cannot look at the military as an industry because the CNMI does not have the same population as Guam as well as the U.S. territory's military bases.

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Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill on Oct. 17

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is gearing up for this year's Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill, scheduled for Oct. 17, starting at 10:17am.

In a media release yesterday, CNMI HSEM extended an invitation to all community members, businesses, and organizations to participate in the annual drill, in an effort aimed at educating the public on earthquake preparedness and survival tactics.

The event encourages individuals, families, schools, businesses, and organizations across the islands to practice the "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" procedure, which experts recommend as the safest response to an earthquake. Participants are invited to register online and share their participation on social media, using the hashtag #ShakeOut and tagging CNMI HSEM.

HSEM shared that 2.4 million people have registered for the event, and worldwide, more than 45 million are expected to take part. The drill, though lasting only one minute, is to help serve as a reminder of the unpredictable nature of earthquakes and the



CHRYSTAL MARINO
File photo of special assistant to the governor for Homeland Security Franklin R. Babauta.

importance of being prepared.

"This is a critical opportunity for us to ensure everyone knows what to do when an earthquake strikes," said Franklin R. Babauta, special assistant to the governor for Homeland Security. "We encourage all residents to take part, not just as individuals, but within their families, schools, and workplaces."

While participation in the drill is self-led, it can be done anywhere, including homes, schools, or virtually through videoconferencing. The drill aims to inspire participants to take further steps in disaster readiness beyond the basic procedures.

To participate, one can register at <https://www.shakeout.org/cnmi/> to be counted and get updates, and then on Oct.

17, 2024, at 10:17am, "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" whenever you are. The drill will last for one minute. Also encourage family, friends, and colleagues to join you, and post photos and videos of your drill using #ShakeOut, and tag CNMI HSEM.


For more information, individuals can contact HSEM public information officer Bernard Villagomez at (670) 287-7106 or via email at b.villagomez@cnmihsem.gov.mp. To register for the drill, visit ShakeOut CNMI.

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FOR A QUALIFYING CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZING THE ABATEMENT AND REBATE OF CERTAIN CNMI TAXES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that:

A. Public hearing. In accordance with the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended, and pursuant to the rule-making procedures of the Administrative Procedures Act, the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority (CEDA) will conduct a public hearing at the New Cafeteria Building, next to Building D, Marianas High School, Bwaay Lane, Susupe, Saipan, on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., on the application of J&P Holdings CNMI LLC, Applicant, for a Qualifying Certificate, which request is for tax relief by way of abatement and rebate of CNMI taxes in consideration of Applicant's proposed \$8,271,600.00 for a new passenger aviation company focusing on interisland transportation. All pursuant to the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended, and as set out in the Applicant's application for a Qualifying Certificate.

B. Nature of hearing. This hearing shall be open to the public. Oral or written statements will be received from anyone wishing to testify thereat, which statement will be incorporated into the records of the hearing.

C. Further information. For further information, please contact CEDA at the above telephone numbers or visit its office at the CEDA Building, 2390 Beach Road, Oleai, Saipan.

/s/ Derek T. Sasamoto
Acting Executive Director



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Not his call—Trump doesn't understand or care about immigration law

In the middle of an interview last week, former President Donald Trump casually tossed out “absolutely I’d revoke (temporary protected status for Haitian immigrants) and I’d bring them back to their country,” referring to the humanitarian immigration program that has given protections from deportation and work authorization to some 200,000 Haitians in the U.S.

This comes after Trump and running mate JD Vance have spent weeks tarring Haitians with vicious lies about eating pets.

The problem for a possible future President Trump is that it’s not up to the president. This is not Louis XIV proclaiming: “l’état, c’est moi,” i.e. “I am the state.” Trump apparently has not bothered to think through whether a president has the legal capability to make a decision in this manner because it doesn’t matter to him.

The former president seems to have forgotten that, when he was in the Oval Office, he already tried to terminate multiple TPS designations and was shot down by a federal judge, who pointed out that these are supposed to be agency decisions free from direct political interference.

Or perhaps Trump does know that and doesn’t care, figuring that he’s sufficiently stacked the federal courts with his ideological allies. Maybe he doesn’t intend to respect the courts’ limitations at all; the former president certainly has been clear about his desire to be a “dictator” when it comes to his immigration plans.

None of that changes the fact that TPS as a program was established by Congress and signed by President George H.W. Bush as part of a broader immigration law in 1990.

Career staff at the Department of Homeland Security make TPS decisions in consultation with the National Security Council, the State Department and sometimes the Justice Department. None of it is done lightly or on a whim, and it is the subject of analyses and considerations that Trump, who prefers acting on gut instincts, has little patience for. But the law is the law.

This isn’t the first aspect of established immigration law that Trump and Vance say they will alter unilaterally. From terminating TPS to parole and asylum and the refugee program and other lawful immigration pathways, all of it is political fodder. None of these are actually decisions that a president or a vice president are empowered to make in this way.

That doesn’t mean that the executive doesn’t get extensive leeway on immigration in general. Part of why Trump was able to remake large aspects of the immigration system on his own is that Congress has delegated substantial power (probably too much power) to the president on one of the most significant policy areas in the country. Underlying immigration laws have not markedly changed in decades, which is what subjects the system to so much ad hoc, electorally-driven rejiggering.

The only way to fix this is for our paralyzed legislative body, called the Congress, to do its job and redesign a logical and humane immigration system for the 21st century that will understand and respect the role of immigration in this country’s culture and economy, including the need for avenues of humanitarian migration, while maintaining order and fairness.

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"HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED A CAREER WITH THE SECRET SERVICE?"

A year after Oct. 7, what gains can Israel lay claim to?

For a state that has experienced many tragedies, Oct. 7 will long be remembered as perhaps the darkest day in Israel’s history. Israelis from across the political divide marked the one-year anniversary of Hamas’ terrorist attack into southern Israel with sadness, mourning and reflection on Monday. Israel, meanwhile, is a state at war with multiple enemies across the Middle East—a war that may only enlarge as Israeli officials prepare to strike Iran in retaliation for Tehran’s ballistic missile attack a week ago.

Oct. 7 has proved to be an inflection point for Israel. Decades of Israeli policy were overturned virtually overnight. The previous playbook of periodic airstrikes and indirect de-escalation accords has been shredded, replaced with a full-throated Israeli assault on Hamas with the aim of eradicating it entirely. The Israeli-Lebanese border, relatively stable since Israel and Hezbollah ended their last war in 2006, was again viewed by the Israeli security establishment as a crisis in waiting. Like a football coach that relies on the running game, Israel is now relying almost solely on military force to solve its Hamas and Hezbollah problems.

Gaza, the Palestinian enclave hugging the eastern Mediterranean, is a wasteland. Israel has struck more than 40,000 Hamas targets over the past year, killing thousands of its fighters, degrading the group’s military capability and doing significant damage to its underground tunnel network. Hamas leadership has been put under significant pressure, and Yahya Sinwar, the man calling the shots in the organization, has been on the run for about a year. Israel’s top military brass is playing up the tactical accomplishments, claiming that Israel has defeated Hamas’ military wing.

Israel, however, hasn’t found a way to translate its tactical prowess into strategic gains. Gaza is now an ungovernable territory, trapped between the remnants of Hamas and ordinary people who are just trying to survive. A few ugly pictures don’t do justice to the extent of the physical destruction in Gaza—close to 42,000 Palestinians have been killed; families have been displaced multiple times and there isn’t enough humanitarian relief to go around.

According to the United Nations, it could take up to 15 years before all of the rubble is removed. Reconstruction costs are in the tens of billions of dollars.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu can brag about giving Hamas a bloody nose and keeping his job, notwithstanding the massive security failure that occurred on his watch. But with those exceptions, accomplishments are few and far between. Held captive by his extremist ministers to maintain his government—some of whom have openly talked about expelling Palestinians from their land—Netanyahu is reluctant to do anything to rock the boat. Staying in power is his top priority; everything else comes second. If that means refusing to put forth a viable postwar plan for Gaza that would maintain a semblance of stability, setting unattainable wartime objectives or keeping the remaining Israeli hostages in limbo, so be it.

Netanyahu also appears perfectly fine with his present war goals: Annihilate Hamas and bring the rest of the hostages in Gaza back to their families. On paper, both sound reasonable. In

By **DANIEL DEPETRIS**

Chicago Tribune

Daniel DePetris is a fellow at Defense Priorities and a foreign affairs columnist for the Chicago Tribune.



practice, they are contradictory. Success with one makes success with the other more difficult. Negotiating a deal to get the hostages out requires Israel to sign a cease-fire deal with Hamas, the very group Israel vows to destroy. Meanwhile, trying to destroy Hamas threatens the lives of the remaining hostages. In September, six of those hostages were executed in cold blood by Hamas as Israeli forces were closing in. Netanyahu is either oblivious to this dynamic or still genuinely believes he can pull a rabbit out of his hat, despite a year of evidence to the contrary.

Israel is rubbing up against the same problem in Lebanon. Hezbollah, the strongest faction in the small Arab country, was always viewed by the Israelis as a threat. But after the trauma of Oct. 7, the threat was magnified. Hezbollah began sending rockets into northern Israel a day later, ostensibly in support of Hamas in Gaza. For months, the confrontation between Israel and Hezbollah was contained to the Israeli-Lebanese border area and settled into a somewhat predictable affair, with rocket fire being responded to by airstrikes—and vice versa.

This is no longer the case. Concluding the situation in northern Israel was unsustainable, the Israeli government escalated the fighting last month and declared war on Hezbollah. Weeks of heavy airstrikes on Hezbollah positions throughout Lebanon have hit the group hard. Hassan Nasrallah, who turned Hezbollah into the world’s most powerful nonstate actor, is dead and buried. The Israeli military has invaded the country, even as its troops remain tied down in Gaza reinvading the same neighborhoods in a perpetual game of Whac-A-Mole.

The last year has reflected poorly on the United States as well. When all is said and done, President Joe Biden’s administration will be remembered as an ineffectual, impotent actor incapable of using the leverage it had to achieve its own objectives—namely, the prevention of a regional war that might force the roughly 40,000 U.S. troops based in the Middle East into the fray.

Netanyahu clearly feels the same way. Understanding that he has a virtual blank check from Washington, the Israeli premier has repeatedly undermined U.S. diplomatic initiatives in Gaza and Lebanon. The pattern is well established: The U.S. wants one thing, Israel does the exact opposite and the U.S. quickly comes around to supporting it. Israel, the junior partner in the relationship, is calling the shots. And Washington seems perfectly fine with following dutifully.

One can only hope that the coming year isn’t as depressing as the first.

Thank you NMC students and faculty: Our future looks bright

Earlier this week I was invited to speak (or rather to answer questions) at a forum hosted by and for students at the Northern Marianas College to engage with candidates for the CNMI delegate to U.S. Congress. On first impression of the young ladies and gentlemen of NMC, I feel compelled say that our future looks bright—if that batch of young men and women are indicative of our future leadership then I am genuinely hopeful. I don't say that lightly and I wouldn't say it at all, if I thought otherwise. The diversity alone is mesmerizing, but more importantly it was the dignified and respectful manner in which all of them articulated their questions and generally conducted themselves that caught my eye. I hate to admit this, but I personally was not that well put together during the college era of my life.

I may have said this in the moment, but I'd like to double down on it here. Our community would be far better served throughout this campaign season (given the semi-captive audience), if the camera were to be turned on any of these young leaders for one- to two-minute responses to any of the questions than it is with the camera being focused solely on the candidates. I get it (of course), the community wants to know what the candidates

know. Again, I'll double down on something else I shared with the audience in that forum—my candidacy is not premised on a suggestion that I know everything about how to resolve all of our problems, but rather on the assurance that I have the knowledge and proven experience to cultivate strong working relationships and to lead an efficient, productive office in service to our community. I can and will represent the CNMI in a manner befitting the strength and honor of being a true islander.

It became clear through the line of questioning on topics that included: Higher education; economy; health care; food insecurity; national politics/federal partnerships; climate change; labor and immigration; infrastructure and national security that there really are no stand-alone issues facing the CNMI. Every single issue dovetails with another—the ankle bone is connected to the knee bone, the knee bone is connected to the thigh bone, etc., etc. To that point, we need to view all of our issues as a priority. Consequently, we also need to be realistic about what our Delegate can and can't do in responding to those issues.

At the very least, we should expect that, "The people's office will be staffed by people from the CNMI who contribute to and foster a professional working environment in pursuit of the col-

By **JIM RAYPHAND**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jim Rayphand is a former director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems Inc.



lective interests of all people who call the CNMI home with dignity and respect (for all) being a guiding principle for how the work of the office is conducted."

To circle back on NMC, I am genuinely looking forward to the day when any one of the kids in this week's college forum decides to step up for leadership roles in the community at large.

That's a long, winding way to express my gratitude and sincere respect for those students and all who facilitated the forum at NMC.

Thank you very much.

Trump's glorification of the 1890s in America displays his dangerous ignorance of economics and history

Donald Trump's firehose of fabrication and grift has reached such a peak in recent days—from his ludicrous denunciation of Kamala Harris as "mentally disabled" to his hawking of cheap, cheesy watches for \$100,000 in what has been widely interpreted as an invitation to bribery to his call for one "really violent day" of unleashed police action to fight crime—that choosing a single unhinged nugget to analyze is a true challenge.

But let's examine one that hasn't gotten the attention it deserves: Trump's glorification of the 1890s as the wealthiest in American history. It should go without saying that Trump couldn't be more wrong about that. But because his remarks, uttered at a town hall session Friday in Michigan, have been largely ignored by the political media, we'll say it.

Trump's conception of America in the 1890s is important not merely because it displays his utter ignorance of history and economics, but because it relates to his stated economic policies in a second term—namely, high tariffs and business deregulation.

Indeed, he seems to know one thing about the 1890s in America: That it was a period of high tariffs. (Or maybe two things, the other being that William McKinley was president, though he didn't take office until 1897.)

Here's what Trump had to say in Michigan (repeating a theme he had mentioned at earlier rallies):

"We're lowering taxes, we're going to use tariffs very, very wisely. You know, our country in the 1890s was probably ... the wealthiest it ever was, because it was a system of tariffs and we had a president, you know, McKinley, right? You remember Mt. McKinley, and then they changed the name, but, uh, one of those things, but, uh, he was really a very good businessman. ... We were a very wealthy country."

A couple of minor points: McKinley was never a "businessman." He was a lawyer—in one of his notable cases as a private attorney, he defended 33 miners charged with rioting in a mine strike, obtaining acquittals for all but one. He served as a prosecutor, U.S. representative and governor of Ohio before reaching the White House. (He was assassinated in 1901, leading to the ascension of his vice president, Theodore Roosevelt.)

Mt. McKinley in Alaska is the former name of the highest peak in North America. It was officially renamed Denali, as the nearby Indigenous population called it, under President Obama in 2015.

Now let's take a stroll through the 1890s—the real period, not the one imagined by Trump—and ask whether this is a world to which we would wish to return. Republicans might also wish to acquaint themselves with the electoral consequences of Trumpian policies in the 1890s, which were not pretty for them.

We'll start with a broad brush. The 1890s brought us the worst stock market crash and one of the deepest depressions up to that point. In retrospect, it was second only to the crash of 1929 and the Great Depression of the 1930s—and by some measures worse than the latter. Americans would remember it as the "Great Depression" until the 1930s economic reversal

supplanted it in the economic lexicon.

In the mid-1890s, notes Paul Campos of the University of Colorado Boulder, per-capita gross domestic product shrank from \$6,400 to \$5,500 (in 2017 dollars). As of the second quarter this year, it was \$68,977 (in 2024 dollars). In other words, no one with two brain cells to rub together could think of the 1890s as "the wealthiest America ever was."

Certainly no one living at that time would wish to relive it. Looking back at the end of December 1893 on the year just coming to a close, the business journal *Bradstreet's Weekly* called the losses suffered nationwide in "financial, commercial and industrial circles" worse than at any time in "the past eighty years." On May 5 that year, the New York Stock Exchange had crashed by more than 24% before recovering, the worst intraday collapse until the great crash of 1929.

The year 1893 was one of two significant economic nadirs during the decade, the second coming in 1897. The latter was followed by a slow recovery that didn't conclude until after 1900. More than 800 banks failed from 1893 through 1897, more than in any period until the Great Depression; by mid-1894, more than 150 railroad companies with 30,000 miles of track were bankrupt. The unemployment rate through the decade would ultimately approach 20%.

Historians pinpoint several causes of the stock market panic of 1893 and subsequent depression, some of which are relevant to Trump's proposals. One was the almost complete absence of business regulation. The 1880s saw the rise of industrial combines overtly designed to suppress competition. Among the most esteemed was the National Cordage Co., or the "cordage trust," which controlled 90% of the U.S. rope market, then a leading industry.

In January 1893 the cordage trust executed a two-for-one stock split to enhance its appeal to smaller investors with a lower share price. The problem was that, like many other overgrown trusts of the era, its financial condition was opaque to its investors and even its bankers.

Only its president and treasurer knew that the cordage trust was hobbled by overproduction, a lack of credit and the evaporation of its working capital. On May 2, the trust had assured the public that it had \$4 million in ready cash. In fact, the cash box held but \$100,000.

The end came for Cordage on May 5, when it abruptly announced that it had been given over to bankruptcy receivers. The stock market crashed that day.

"Cordage has collapsed like a burst meteor," reported the *Commercial and Financial Chronicle*, "and the other industrials have all of them shared to a considerable extent in the decline."

Would Trump favor returning the business landscape to the 19th century Wild West? Project 2025, the Heritage Foundation-drafted road map to a second Trump administration, calls for reducing "unnecessary regulatory impediments to capital formation" in its chapter on the Securities and Exchange Commission. Existing regulations, it says, are "ineffective, costly, opaque, and largely impervious to reform."

In other words, the project aims to get the government off

By **MICHAEL HILTZIK**

Los Angeles Times

Michael Hiltzik is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.



the backs of Americans, so big business can saddle up.

Another important factor in the 1890s was tariffs, which of course are a leading fixation of Trump's.

The Tariff Act of 1890 was known as the McKinley Tariff because McKinley was chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee when it was enacted. An openly protectionist measure, it raised duties as high as 49.5%—in some cases higher than even McKinley favored. Wool and imported tinplate, which was used for ceilings and cheap cookware, were particularly targeted.

Americans wholly detested the tariffs, which forced up the prices of popular products. This led to an electoral bloodbath for Republicans in the 1890 midterm elections, when the party lost 78 House seats and the Democrats won a 236-vote majority. Even McKinley, who earlier had been gerrymandered into victory, lost his seat.

In the 1892 presidential election, Republican Benjamin Harrison was turned out of office and Democrat Grover Cleveland won his second term. In control of the White House and both chambers of Congress, the Democrats rolled back many of the tariffs in 1894.






After the GOP regained control of the White House and Congress in 1896, the tariffs were restored, some at even higher levels than before. Americans eventually became exasperated again with high tariffs. Democrats regained the House and cut deeply into the GOP's Senate majority in the midterm elections of 1910, and regained the White House with the election of Woodrow Wilson in 1912. The rates were steeply lowered again in 1913.

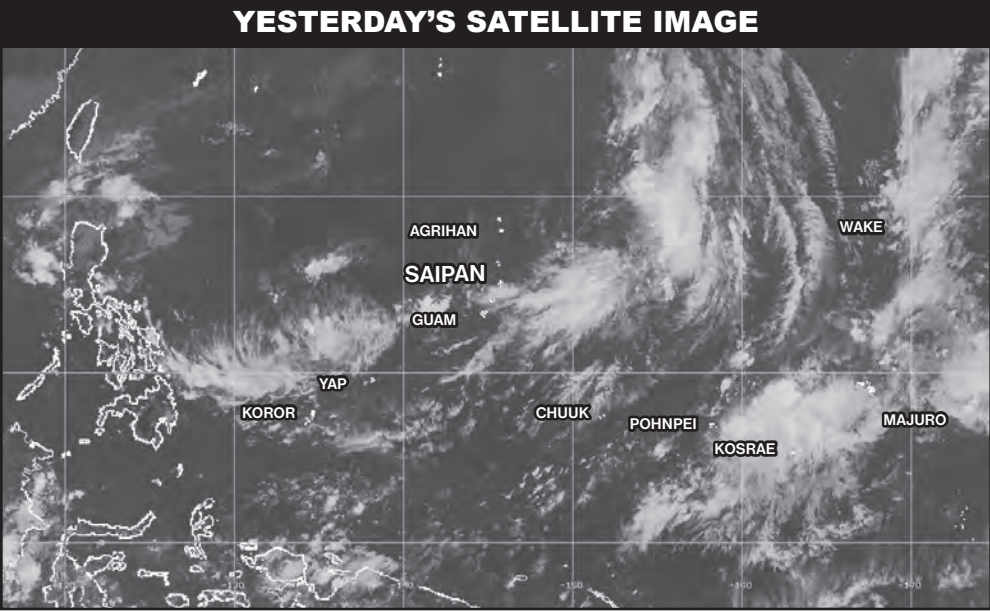
Despite Trump's persistent misrepresentation that tariffs are paid by the target countries, politicians in the late 19th and early 20th centuries saw them as domestic taxes by another name—and more politically palatable.

Although direct taxes can't be concealed and always cause public debate, Wilson, as historian Joanne R. Reitano has observed, noted that "very few of us taste the tariff in our sugar." Americans tended to tolerate tariffs until they seemed excessive, and designed to favor wealthy industrialists and bankers at the expense of farmers and laborers.

Will today's voters have the same understanding? Or will the truth about tariffs and the political and economic conditions the McKinley tariff brought about in 1890 reach the public? Trump might not want to hope it does, because the real picture is not as pretty as he paints it. In fact, not pretty at all.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. West to southwest winds 10 to 15 mph becoming light and variable.		Mostly cloudy. A 20 percent chance of showers. Light and variable winds.		Mostly cloudy becoming partly cloudy Sunday. A 20 percent chance of showers.		Mostly cloudy becoming partly cloudy Sunday. A 20 percent chance of showers.		Mostly cloudy becoming partly cloudy Sunday. A 20 percent chance of showers.	
87°	78°	87°	79°	87°	79°	87°	79°	87°	79°



PICTURE TIME: 6:10 AM THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

No meaningful changes where needed to the previous discussion. Scattered to numerous showers are expected today and they may be heavy at times. Urban and small stream flooding is possible today. Winds are expected to be gentle to moderate with gusts near the showers reaching up to strong to near-gale. Seas are expected to remain around 4 to 6 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	85° / 78°	
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 78°	
Yap	Cloudy	83° / 78°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	89° / 78°	
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	89° / 78°	
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 82°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:08 AM	5:59 PM
Saturday	6:08 AM	5:58 PM
Sunday	6:08 AM	5:57 PM
Monday	6:08 AM	5:57 PM
Tuesday	6:08 AM	5:56 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	1:08 PM	-	-
Saturday	-	12:32 AM	1:59 PM
Sunday	-	1:33 AM	2:47 PM
Monday	-	2:33 AM	3:32 PM
Tuesday	-	3:33 AM	4:15 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	64° / 55°	
Beijing	Fair	69° / 53°	
Hong Kong	Fair	84° / 74°	
Honolulu	Thunderstorms	82° / 72°	
London	Showers	63° / 55°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	100° / 72°	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 75°	
Melbourne	Cloudy	70° / 54°	
Miami	Showers	85° / 79°	
New York	Clear	69° / 56°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	80° / 67°	
Paris	Showers	57° / 55°	
Busan	Mostly Cloudy	76° / 60°	
Rome	Cloudy	68° / 48°	
Salem	Showers	72° / 52°	
San Francisco	Sunny	75° / 56°	
Seoul	Fair	75° / 58°	
Tokyo	Cloudy	70° / 59°	
Washington, DC	Fair	73° / 54°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
7:30 AM	Low Tide	-0.01	
3:49 PM	High Tide	1.68	
9:13 PM	Low Tide	1.35	
-	-	-	

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2024

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5	UA825	5:30PM	10:00PM	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:15AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:20PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily up to Oct 26	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
				7C2306/3211	11:10PM	3:30PM+1	Daily from Oct 27
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:30AM	6:25AM	Daily from Oct 28	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily up to Oct 26
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily up to Oct 27	7C3211	10:10AM	3:30PM	Daily from Oct 27
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily up to Oct 26	TW307	8:00PM	1:30AM+1	Daily up to Oct 27
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily up to Oct 26	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
7C3212	4:35PM	8:25PM	Daily from Oct 27	7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX77	3:05AM	6:00AM	1, 5	HX76	6:25PM	1:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday
GUAM TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily
TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

Koreans say Marianas is Top 10 most satisfying destination



Visiting South Korean children at a memorial in the historic and scenic Marpi region of Saipan in 2023.

A recent consumer report in South Korea ranks the Marianas among the Top 10 most satisfying destinations worldwide among both domestic and overseas travelers.

Consumer Insight, a public opinion research agency providing insights about the behavior of Korean consumers, recently announced its “2024 Overall Satisfaction with Domestic and Overseas Travel Destinations” based on a survey of over 12,000 people who have traveled overseas within the last year. Saipan ranked No. 9 following Switzerland, Austria, Hawaii, Spain, Czechoslovakia, Australia, Italy, and New Zealand and higher than Japan. “It’s great news that Korean visitors to the Marianas—who make up over 75% of all our visitors—are overwhelmingly satisfied with their visit,” said Marianas Visitors Authority Marketing specialist Skye Han. “These survey results highlight what we’re doing right as a destination—aggressive marketing, protecting and promoting our pristine nature environment of both land and sea, and sharing our warm island hospitality and culture.”

The Marianas—represented by the capital island of Saipan in the survey—scored 758 in overall satisfaction score, which is 52 points higher compared to 2023. Last year, Saipan’s overall ranking in the world was No. 24, and this year’s jump to No. 9 marks the highest year-on-year increase among all listed destinations.

“What is important now is to remain focused on improve-

ensuring the safety of our visitors, addressing blighted buildings, enhancing our islands, and ensuring our visitors have an informed and safe visit with trained tour guides. There’s still much to be done to give our guests in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota that great experience they are seeking when they choose our destination.”

Last fiscal year, over 177,000 Koreans visited the Marianas via direct flights from Seoul-Incheon. (PR)




Saipan ranked No. 9 following Switzerland, Austria, Hawaii, Spain, Czechoslovakia, Australia, Italy, and New Zealand and higher than Japan, according to a recent consumer report.



A South Korean tourist at the Managaha Marine Conservation Area of Saipan in 2023.

NOTICE OF OPEN AUCTION



2018 TOYOTA COROLLA (Color: White)

61,146 Miles | Condition: Good

MINIMUM BID: \$8,000.00

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned counsel, Attorney Robert T. Torres (or his designee), for and on behalf of the Bank of Guam, will sell at auction the abovementioned vehicle to the highest bidder on **October 21, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres in Chalan Kiya.**

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties conducting the auction sale:
 - withdraw the chattel mortgage (vehicle) listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such chattel mortgage (vehicle) is accepted;
 - to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before the chattel mortgage (vehicle) is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever there; and
 - to reject any and all bids.
- Minimum Bid.** The minimum bid for the sale of the abovementioned vehicle is **\$8,000.00**. No advanced bids will be accepted. The vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder “as is, where is” without any warranties. **Bidders must be present in person at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, 5960 Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya at 10:00 a.m. to bid.** All bids less than \$8,000.00 are rejected. Any person who registers his/her bid shall provide a valid identification card (valid CNMI Driver’s License or Passport). The winning bidder shall be the person whom the vehicle is confirmed to, if the bid is accepted.
- Payment.** The entire purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. Personal checks /company checks are not accepted. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier’s check only. The Bank of Guam shall release the chattel mortgage to the winning bidder. Failure to make payment will result the winning bidder forfeiting his/her winning bid. The next highest bidder (minimum \$8,000.00) may be awarded.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the term conducted and enforcement of sale by the announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

DATED this 7th day of October, 2024.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

NOTICE OF OPEN AUCTION



2020 HONDA CRV (Color: White)

17,392 Miles

Condition: Excellent

MINIMUM BID: \$22,000.00

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned counsel, Attorney Robert T. Torres (or his designee), for and on behalf of the Bank of Guam, will sell at auction the abovementioned vehicle to the highest bidder on **October 21, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres in Chalan Kiya.**

Vehicle Features:

EX-L Sport Utility 4D	4-Cyl, Turbo 1.5 Liter
Automatic SUV	All Wheel Drive
Push Button Start	Sun-Roof
Keyless Entry	Light Brown Leather Seats
Power Door Locks	Bluetooth Wireless
Power Tailgate Release	Multi-View Camera

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties conducting the auction sale:
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 - to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before the chattel mortgage (vehicle) is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever there; and
 - to reject any and all bids.
- Minimum Bid.** The minimum bid for the sale of the abovementioned vehicle is \$22,000.00. No advanced bids will be accepted. The vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder “as is, where is” without any warranties. **Bidders must be present in person at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, 5960 Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya at 10:00 a.m. to bid.** All bids less than \$22,000.00 are rejected. Any person who registers his/her bid shall provide a valid identification card (valid CNMI Driver’s License or Passport). The winning bidder shall be the person whom the vehicle is confirmed to, if the bid is accepted.
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DATED this 7th day of October, 2024.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

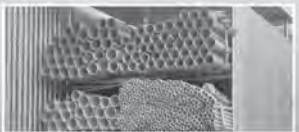
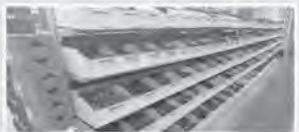


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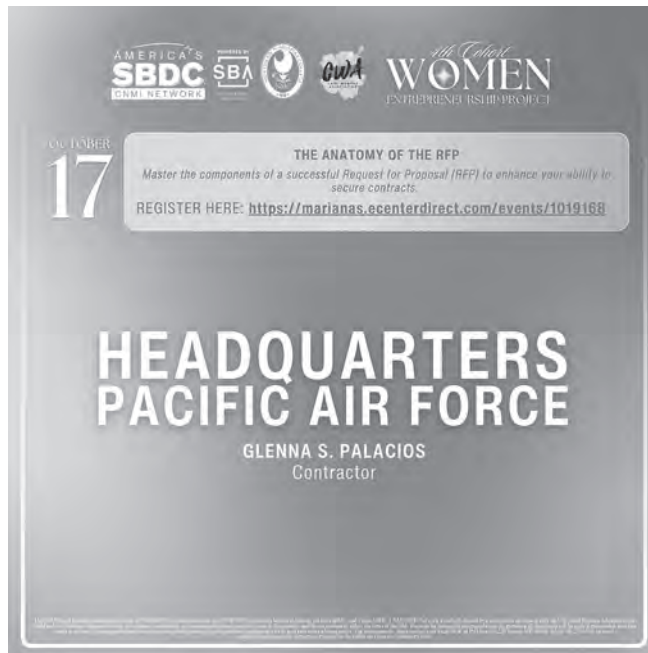
Business

Glenna Palacios to lead session in WEP Cohort 4

The CNMI Small Business Development Center Network at the Northern Marianas College and the CNMI Women's Association are excited to announce that Glenna Sakisat Palacios, a contractor to Headquarters Pacific Air Force at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, will lead a session on federal contracting during Day 3 of the Women's Entrepreneurship Project Cohort 4 training series. Her session, titled "The Anatomy of the RFP," will take place on Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024, at the Northern Marianas College Library located at its As Terlaje Campus on Saipan.

Palacios brings a wealth of experience in military affairs and public-private partnerships, having recently retired from the CNMI government after 22 years of service. As a contractor to HQ PACAF supporting the Agile Combat Employment Joint Integration Team, her work focuses on integrating the U.S. Air Force's Agile Combat Employment operations in the Second Island Chain and fostering strategic partnerships to enhance both local and USAF capabilities to navigate logistical constraints in austere environments.

Palacios has been instrumental in developing soft power initiatives that link public and private sectors to bolster local capacity. These include increasing local capability for the Pacific Air Force



contracting space, sustaining military assets, and integrating logistics-based training programs that offer direct benefits to both CNMI communities and the United States Air Force. Her significant contributions during her tenure as the special assistant to the Governor for Military Affairs at the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs reflect her deep understanding of military operations in the CNMI and the complexities of the federal contracting environment. As the liaison between the CNMI government and the Department of Defense, she facilitated military integration into the local community while ensuring that partnerships were mutually beneficial.

"The Anatomy of the RFP"

session will offer participants practical insights into how to respond to Request for Proposals in the federal contracting space. Attendees will learn how to enhance their proposal development and understand the components necessary for submitting competitive bids, paving the way for new opportunities with government agencies.

Nadine C. Deleon Guerrero, network director of the CNMI SBDC, expressed her excitement about Palacios' participation, "Glenna Palacios is a powerhouse with a unique perspective on how military and civilian sectors can collaborate for mutual benefit. Her session is a fantastic opportunity for our participants

to learn from someone who has built lasting partnerships and understands the intricacies of federal contracting."

The Women's Entrepreneurship Project invites aspiring and established women entrepreneurs to join Cohort 4 and learn from Palacios, as well as other esteemed presenters.

■ Date: Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024

■ Time: 5:30pm-7:30pm

■ Location: NMC As Terlaje Campus, Room Olympio T. Borja Memorial Library

■ Session Topic: The Anatomy of the RFP

■ Presented by: Glenna Sakisat Palacios, contractor of Headquarters Pacific Air Force

■ Registration Link: <https://marianas.eccenterdirect.com/events/1019168>

Attendees must be a registered CNMI SBDC client, and interested individuals are able to register via phone or email. Certificates of Completion will be awarded to those who attend all four sessions. Participants who miss one session may still attend, but will not receive a certificate.

For more information, visit www.cnmisbdc.com or contact us at (670) 237-6888/cnmisbdc@marianas.edu. Follow us on social media for the latest updates: Instagram @cnmisbdc and Facebook at CNMI Small Business Development Center Network. (PR)

China seeks deeper economic ties with ASEAN at summit talks

VIENTIANE, Laos (AP)—Chinese Premier Li Qiang called for deeper market integration with Southeast Asia on Thursday during annual summit talks where territorial disputes in the South China Sea are likely to be high on the agenda.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations' meeting with Li followed recent violent confrontations at sea between China and ASEAN members Philippines and Vietnam that raised unease over China's in-

creasingly assertive actions in the disputed waters.

Li didn't mention the row in his opening speech at the summit talks but said that intensifying trade relations between Beijing and ASEAN—a market of 672 million people—are beneficial for the bloc.

"The global economy is still seeing a sluggish recovery, protectionism is rising and geopolitical turbulence has brought instability and uncertainty to our development," Li said.

"An ultra large-scale market is our greatest foundation for promoting economic prosperity. Strengthening market coordination and synchronization is an important direction for our further cooperation," he said.

China is ASEAN's No. 1 trading partner and its third-largest source of foreign investment—a key reason why the bloc has been muted in its criticisms of Chinese actions in the South China Sea. ASEAN leaders have repeatedly called only for restraint and respect for international law.

ASEAN members Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei along with Taiwan have overlapping claims with China, which claims sovereignty over virtually all of the South China Sea and has become more aggressive in its attempts to enforce its claims. ASEAN members and China have been negotiating a code of conduct to govern behavior in the strategic waterway for years but progress has been slow. Sticky issues include disagreements over whether the pact should be binding.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

NAME OF EMPLOYER: Radiocom Saipan, Inc.

THE POSITION: Accountant

NO. OF VACANCY: 1

JOB SITE: Unit 2-A, MPS Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

JOB DESCRIPTION: Responsible in preparing accurate and timely financial statements; Handling invoices, payments, and receipts to ensure timely and accurate processing of transactions; Recording financial transactions and maintaining general ledger entries to keep track of financial activities; Ensuring compliance with tax laws and regulations; Preparing and filing tax returns; Analyzing financial data and generating reports to help management make informed decisions; Assisting in the preparation of budgets and financial forecasts to plan and track financial performance; Calculating and processing employees' wages, taxes, and deductions in a timely manner; Utilizing accounting software to facilitate financial management and reporting.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION: Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy.

WORK EXPERIENCE: Must have at least 24 months of relevant work experience as an Accountant.

HOW TO APPLY: Submit or mail comprehensive Resume and supporting credentials to:

DANILO M. GANACIAS

President

RADIOCOM SAIPAN, INC.

Office Address: Unit 2-A, MPS Building, Beach Road, San Jose

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Message of Appreciation

† Gilbert Santos Muna

May 12, 1962 – September 21, 2024



We the family of our beloved
Gilbert Santos Muna,
lovingly known as "Gil", would like to
extend our sincere appreciation to all our
family and friends for all the love and support
you have given us during this difficult time.
Your presence, prayers, and acts of kindness
have touched us and we will always
remember you in our hearts and prayers.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

From the Family

Life & Style

AS MILTON APPROACHES

Disney World, Universal closures halt Orlando tourism

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Tourism in Orlando rapidly came to a standstill Wednesday with the main airport and at least three theme parks and other businesses set to shut down, leaving Florida residents and visitors fleeing Hurricane Milton to hunker down in area hotels.

Milton, which is expected to come ashore late Wednesday as a major storm, threatened to ruin the vacations of tens of thousands of tourists who came to Orlando to visit the likes of Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando and SeaWorld, or partake in October festivities like Universal's Halloween Horror Nights. Disney and Universal were due to close Wednesday afternoon while SeaWorld did not open at all. All are expected to remain closed on Thursday.

Macron says he's 'super proud' of his wife's cameo in 'Emily in Paris'

PARIS (AP)—French President Emmanuel Macron says he's "super proud" of a cameo appearance by his wife, Brigitte, in the fourth season of the Netflix show "Emily in Paris" but doesn't seem keen to make a guest appearance of his own.

"I'm less attractive than Brigitte," the French leader said in an interview with Variety, published Wednesday, when asked if he'd been invited to make an appearance.

France's first lady plays herself in one of the new season's episodes.

"I was super proud and she was very happy to do so," Macron told Variety. "It's just a few minutes, but I think it



Orlando International Airport, the nation's seventh busiest and Florida's most trafficked, ceased operations Wednesday morning.

The closures tempered expectations for some tourists while the impending storm raised some anxiety in others.

Linda and Bob Shaffer from northeast Pennsylvania said they had stocked up on pizza, peanut butter, drinks, flashlights and a deck of cards at their rental condo. They decided to walk around the resort's entertainment hours before they planned to hole

up during the hurricane.

"We're just killing time until we have to stare at each other for the next 24 hours," Linda Shaffer said.

Meanwhile, the soggy weather didn't faze Serena Hedrick or her 16-year-old son, Corey, as they headed into



French President Emmanuel Macron and his wife Brigitte Macron wait for China's President Xi Jinping and his wife Peng Liyuan at the Elysee Palace, Monday, May 6, 2024 in Paris.

was a very good moment first for her."

"I think it's good for the im-

age of France," he said and added that the show is "super positive in terms of attractive-

ness for the country."

"So for my own business, it's a very good initiative," Macron said.

Lily Collins, who plays Emily, previously told The Associated Press that Brigitte Macron was "a big fan of the show." The first lady invited her and Darren Star, the series' creator, to meet a few years ago and shared her desire to appear on the show, Collins said.

"She was so kind and warm and welcoming and she was so enthusiastic about the show," Collins said. "Having her on set was so fun."

In the second part of season four, Emily heads to Italy for a holiday.

Universal Studios on Wednesday. Corey had been worried about what could happen during their first hurricane but was comforted by the promise from their hotel of nonstop movies, kids' activities and food.

"It is what it is," Serena Hedrick said.

The Osborne family traveled from Memphis two days early so they could have almost two days at the theme parks before Milton hit. Alexander Osborne said other

relatives decided not to join because of the storm, but he wasn't worried about experiencing his first hurricane.

"It's not dangerous to be here now, and I want to spend time and enjoy what we can because we are going to be in our hotel rooms for the next few days, he said.

Fifteen-year-old Nicholas Gutowski said he was putting his faith in Disney's infrastructure at the hotel where he and his sister were staying.

Sean "Diddy" Combs to make 1st appearance before trial judge in sex trafficking case

NEW YORK (AP)—Sean "Diddy" Combs is set to make his first appearance before the judge who is expected to preside over the hip-hop powerbroker's trial on sex trafficking charges.

Combs will be brought to Manhattan federal court from a Brooklyn jail for a Thursday afternoon appearance before Judge Arun Subramanian.

The hearing is expected to result in deadlines being set for lawyers on each side to submit arguments that will establish the boundaries for a trial that Combs' lawyers want to start in April or May. Prosecutors have not expressed a preference for when the trial might occur.

The judge was assigned to the case after another judge recused himself based on his past associations with lawyers in the case.

Combs, 54, has pleaded not guilty to charges lodged against him last month.

Those charges included racketeering conspiracy and sex trafficking based on allegations that go back to 2008.

An indictment alleges Combs coerced and abused women for years with help from a network of associates and employees while silencing victims through blackmail and violent acts including kidnapping, arson and physical beatings.

His lawyers have been trying unsuccessfully to get the founder of Bad Boy Records freed on bail since his Sept. 16 arrest.

Two judges have concluded that Combs is a danger to the community if he is freed. At a bail hearing three weeks ago, a judge rejected a \$50 million bail package, including home detention and electronic monitoring, after concluding that Combs was a threat to tamper with witnesses and obstruct a continuing investigation.

Wife's revelations prompt man to consider divorce

DEAR ABBY: I have been married 27 years with two kids. My wife recently revealed to me that she was raped when she was 14 but said it wasn't violent. She also said she had several adult partners when she was 15 and 16. We had discussed our past prior to marriage, and these things weren't mentioned. If they had been, I wouldn't have married her.

I have a hard time even looking at her now. I feel like telling her I want a divorce, but I'm looking for a second opinion about what I should do. Am I being ridiculous for wanting a divorce over things that happened 35 years ago?

THROWN IN MISSOURI

DEAR THROWN: Consent laws can be confusing and can change over time, and a lot may depend on the age of each partner. However, rape is rape. When your wife was 15 and 16 an ADULT may also have been breaking the law by having sex with her, even consensually. After all this, she might have benefitted from counseling (if any was offered).

Your wife may not have previously discussed this because she was afraid your reaction would be as over the top as it has been. Before you decide to divorce her for being victimized as a teenager, I urge you to consult a licensed therapist either alone or with her. If you do, it will give you better perspective.

DEAR ABBY: My first real adult love was a woman named "Sasha." We had a whirlwind romance in the mid-'80s. At the time, I thought she was The One. The romance ended when she told me she was married. The last time I saw her was with her husband at a nightclub in the '80s.

I moved on and married someone else in 1990. I do, however, think about Sasha sometimes. I don't remember her married last name, so I can't locate her. My wife thinks it's insane that I would want to talk with Sasha. I want to ask her if our relationship was real and if she loved me. When traveling in the area where I met Sasha, I would look at people to see if I might run into her. Do you think I'm crazy to want to have just one conversation with Sasha?

BITTERSWEET IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR BITTERSWEET: It has been 40 years since your whirlwind romance with Sasha. What was a whirlwind romance for you may have been a fling for her. She should have told you from the beginning that she was married, but she didn't, which leads me to think she didn't love you. People who love each other try to protect each other. Which leads me to your question. No, I don't think you are insane, but I do think it's time you stopped trying to revisit the past.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



TO MY READERS: Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, begins at sundown. During this 24-hour period, observant Jewish people fast, engage in reflection and prayer and formally repent for any sin that might have been committed during the previous Hebrew year. To all of you who observe—may your fast be a meaningful one.

LOVE, ABBY

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

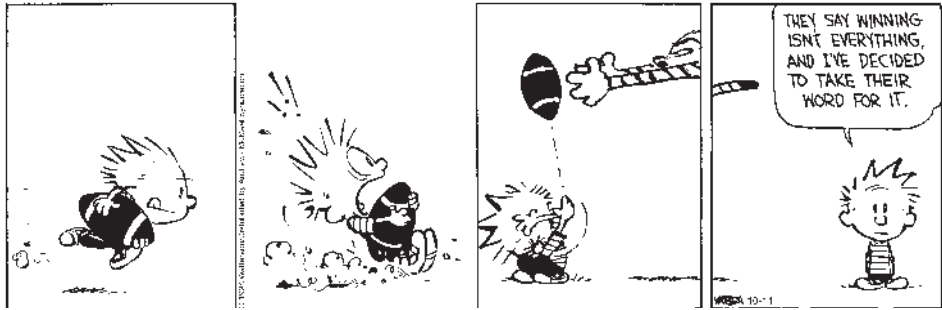
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

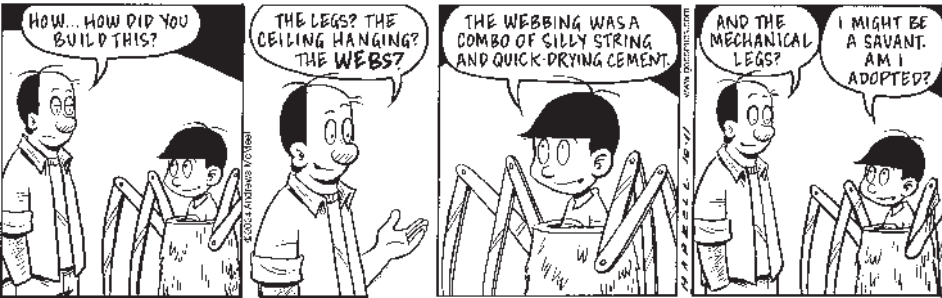


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 45 Fate 47 Docs' 3 Pie 25 Actress 1 Phone bug 47 Docs' 4 "— 4 Curved 26 Stanley 7 Higher 48 Flamenco 5 Deodor- 30 Oit- 12 Yucatan 53 Slobber 7 Hertz 28 Pester 13 Hogwash 52 Cacoph- 6 Step 30 Oit- 14 YouTube 54 D.C. 8 Laundry 31 Rx 15 Photo, 55 Early 9 Poem of 32 "You've 16 Orchestra 56 Vermont 10 Dog's 33 First 18 Lawyers' 57 Latin 101 17 Dawn 36 Yemen 19 Narrow 58 "Help!" 21 — 37 Large 40 Where 20 Galvaniz- 22 Mined 23 Whirled 27 New En- 29 Suave 31 Tierney 34 Ryan or 35 "Please 37 Texter's 38 — gin fizz 39 Goat's 41 Bloke

DOWN 1 Novem- 23 Boom 42 Devil's 45 Hardy 2 Suspect's 24 "The 43 Pedro's 46 Regard- 48 LPs' suc- 49 Illustrations 50 — 51 Highway

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 10-11

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matt Bomer, 47; Emily Deschanel, 48; Jane Krakowski, 56; Joan Cusack, 62.

Happy Birthday: Live and learn and use your energy wisely. Concentrate on how you earn, save and handle your cash. Strive to turn something you enjoy into your professional dream job. Choosing a direction that inspires and enhances your life will encourage better health and opportunities. Put more time and interest into improving your health, diet and fitness routines. Build the environment you want to live in and create opportunities that satisfy your soul. Your numbers are 5, 13, 18, 27, 34, 38, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Distance yourself from drama. Anger and disagreements will take over if you don't channel your energy into something to ensure progress. Don't leave yourself open for criticism; focus on what you want, and don't stop until you are satisfied with the results. Get your facts straight. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Address issues and consider making a change. Put your energy into practical applications that encourage safe and positive change. Examine your relationships and find a way to eliminate controversy before it's too late. The right move will pave the way to new beginnings, relationships and pastimes. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Handle an unexpected change with optimism. A positive attitude will eliminate unnecessary conflict with someone who doesn't share your concerns. Be ready to articulate your intentions, including facts and figures, and you'll gain acceptance. A physical motion to secure your position will help you gain momentum. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Concentrate on satisfying physical or creative jobs. The busier you are, the less time you'll have to let the little things bother you. Don't address issues with someone who doesn't share

your opinion or values. Put your time and effort where it counts, and you'll dodge an argument.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Question everything and everyone. Getting the facts first will help you avoid a misunderstanding. Refrain from letting a change someone makes point you in the wrong direction. Concentrate on home, family and opportunities directly linked to your goals and objectives. Research will lead to a healthier lifestyle. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Reconnect with a long-lost friend, visit a hangout, see who's there and close doors that have run their course. Reminiscing will satisfy the soul and help you revisit dreams you grudgingly abandoned. The time is ripe to expand your repertoire and to invest time in yourself and your long-term goals. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Do your best to sidestep disagreements and set boundaries regarding domestic issues and associations with people you deal with daily. Concentrate on what's possible and implement opportunities that allow you to put your unique spin on whatever project you pursue. Trust your instincts and lead the way. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A day trip, getting together with people who share your interests or delving into something you are thirsty to learn will be satisfying and encourage you to spend more time doing things that make you happy. Personal gain is favored. Romance will prompt a positive life-style change. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Avoid broadcasting your every move. Keeping your whereabouts and intentions a secret will make it easier to achieve your goals, and you'll have a much more significant influence on others when you are ready to share what you accomplish. A financial or personal gain is heading your way. ****

EUGENIA LAST THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Put more time and effort into investments, how you earn and handle your cash, and taking care of unfinished business. Actions will take precedence over words. Refrain from making empty promises or partnering with untrustworthy or unreliable people. Avoid procrastination when action is necessary. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Consider your financial and medical history and options, and map out a plan that updates your situation and gets you back on track and worry-free. A healthy lifestyle change will counter ongoing expenses, encourage you to rethink your habits and mitigate temptation. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Physical activities will take your mind off your troubles and allow you to distance yourself from confusing situations. Social events, travel, conferences and reunions will change your perspective and help you devise a positive way forward at a cost you can afford. Personal growth is within reach. ***

Birthday Baby: You are outspoken, engaging and original. You are impulsive and proactive.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

10/11

Difficulty: ★★★★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

10/10

Difficulty: ★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

THINGS THAT TILT Solution: 4 letters

HNSEBACKWARDPMM
SITTHACURVEIIO
HHEUOCRALSRLVIO
ICEPRWTEKFRETLS
FORLANEEMOMCCII
TRTAFHIRRAHTRNT
ANSFWDARSARTCIOEI
BELLLAFFTOSOPO
LRAEDORENONUNK
EAXNERELLNUNELC
LCTLUIAEONWODSL
DKGTDREVOSIXAMLO
DNCAIEFNAELCRIC
AIRPLANETATORDK
PGSYAWEDISECNEF

© 2024 Andrews McMeel Syndicate www.wonderword.com 10/11
Airplane, Angle, Arch, Axis, Backward, Camera, Chin, Circle, Clock, Corner, Crooked, Curve, Desk, Direction, Down, Fall, Fence, Flex, Flip, Forward, Gradient, Lean, Level, Line, Mirror, Mountain, Move, Paddle, Picture Frame, Pitch, Position, Rack, Road, Roof, Rotate, Round, Shape, Shelf, Shift, Sideways, Slant, Slide, Slope, Spiral, Streets, Stretch, Table, Tower, Turn, Wheel
Yesterday's Answer: Equipment
For WONDERWORD apps, books & more, visit Wonderword.com, or call 1-855-232-2367.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Lindor's grand slam sends Mets into NLCS with 4-1 win over Phillies



NEW YORK
(AP)—

Francisco Lindor hit a grand slam in the sixth inning, his latest clutch swing in a storybook season full of them, and the New York Mets reached the National League Championship Series with a 4-1 victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on Wednesday.

Edwin Diaz struck out Kyle Schwarber with two runners aboard to end it as New York finished off the rival Phillies in Game 4 of their best-of-five Division Series, winning 3-1 to wrap up a postseason series at home for the first time in 24 years.

"I want to win it all. And ours will be a team that will forever be remembered," Lindor said, speaking in the interview room with one of his young daughters on his lap drinking from a Gatorade bottle.

"This will be a team that comes every 10 years and eats for free everywhere they go. And I want to do that. I want to do that. But the job is not done."

With tears in his eyes, outfielder Brandon Nimmo embraced Lindor as the Mets poured onto the field in excitement following the final out.

Then, in a raucous locker room, they enjoyed the team's first champagne-soaked clinching celebration in Citi Field's 16-season history. The last time the Mets won a playoff series in their own ballpark was the 2000 NLCS at Shea Stadium.

"This is the kind of stuff that I was dreaming about," Nimmo said in a clubhouse interview shown on the giant videoboard in center. "This has been a long time coming. We wanted it so bad for our fan base."

After a third bubbly clinching bash in 10 days and then some rest, New York opens the best-of-seven NLCS on Sunday at the San Diego Padres or Los Angeles Dodgers. Those teams are tied 2-all heading into the decisive Game 5 of their NLDS on Friday in Los Angeles.

"Let's keep this thing rolling!" Mets slugger Pete Alonso told reveling fans still in the stands when he popped out of the clubhouse party for an on-field interview with large goggles protecting his eyes. "So proud of this group. We've overcome so much."

New York is chasing its third World Series title and first since 1986.

"I want to slay the negative Met fan perceptions, and we're on our way to doing that," owner Steve Cohen said.

For the NL East champion Phillies, who won 95 games



New York Mets' Francisco Lindor (12) follows through on a grand slam home run against the Philadelphia Phillies during the sixth inning of Game 4 of the National League baseball playoff series, Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2024, in New York.

and finished six ahead of the wild-card Mets during the regular season, it was a bitter exit early in the playoffs and a disappointing step backward after they advanced to the 2022 World Series and then lost Games 6 and 7 of the 2023 NLCS at home to Arizona.

After falling short in October again, Bryce Harper and the Phillies are still looking for the franchise's third championship.

"We have a really great group. We got beat in a short series," manager Rob Thomson said.

Perhaps overanxious at the plate with so much on the table, the Mets left the bases loaded in the first and second against Ranger Suárez and stranded eight runners overall through the first five innings.

They put three runners on again in the sixth, this time with nobody out, before No. 9 batter Francisco Alvarez grounded into a force at the plate against All-Star reliever Jeff Hoffman, who had warmed up three times before coming in.

With the season on the line, Thomson then summoned closer Carlos Estévez to face Lindor, who drove a 2-1 fastball clocked at 99 mph into Philadelphia's bullpen in right-center, giving New York a 4-1 lead and sending the sold-out crowd of 44,103 into a delirious, bouncing, throbbing frenzy.

"I knew it right away," Estévez said. "I knew I wanted to go a little bit higher on the pitch. Unfortunately, it was

more like middle-away instead of up and away, and as soon as he hit it, I knew he hit it really well."

With his first homer of these playoffs, Lindor joined Shane Victorino and Hall of Fame slugger Jim Thome as the only major leaguers with two postseason grand slams. The star shortstop also connected for Cleveland at Yankee Stadium in Game 2 of a 2017 AL Division Series.

Edgardo Alfonzo hit the only other postseason slam in Mets history, during a 1999 Division Series at Arizona. Robin Ventura's grand slam-single in the NLCS that year doesn't count.

"Got runners on and we couldn't come up with a big hit until finally, who else? The MVP. I keep saying you could write a book. You could make a movie, because this is it right here," Mets rookie manager Carlos Mendoza said.

"And then the whole time the inning is unfolding, Lindor is going to do it again. There's no panic. The way he controls the emotions and he hits that ball. It's unbelievable."

Fans chanted "MVP! MVP!" as Lindor disappeared into the dugout and again when he took his position on defense in the seventh.

YANKEES 3, ROYALS 2

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Giancarlo Stanton hit a go-ahead homer in the eighth inning amid a battle of bullpens, and the New York Yankees beat the Kansas City Royals 3-2 on Wednesday night in

Game 3 of their AL Division Series at Kauffman Stadium.

Stanton finished with three hits, drove in two runs and stole a base for the first time in four years for the Yankees, who will turn to six-time All-Star pitcher Gerrit Cole on Thursday night with a chance to reach the American League Championship Series.

"We need to wrap it up tomorrow. No wiggle room," Stanton said. "We've got to get it done."

In a game dominated by pitching, the Royals used four relievers before starter-turned-bullpen ace Kris Bubic took over for the eighth. He struck out Austin Wells before Stanton hit a 3-1 pitch nearly 420 feet to left field to give New York the lead.

"He's done it throughout his career with us," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "I thought that at-bat off Bubic was just phenomenal. I think he went up there looking to do damage, looking to do just that."

The Royals tried to answer off Luke Weaver in the bottom of the eighth, getting Bobby Witt Jr.'s first hit of the series and a two-out single by franchise stalwart Salvador Perez. But the unflappable Weaver recovered to get Yuli Gurriel to fly out, then he took care of the ninth to earn the save and cap 4 1/3 scoreless innings by the New York bullpen.

Yankees relievers have not allowed an earned run in 13 2/3 innings this postseason.

"I think that's been one of our strengths, if not our

main strength, the whole year," Yankees starter Clarke Schmidt said.

Far less successful for New York continues to be Aaron Judge, the front-runner for AL MVP. The big slugger's postseason pratfalls continued with an 0-for-4 night, leaving Judge 1 for 11 with only an infield single in three games against the Royals.

He did have one of the Yankees' nine walks Wednesday night, giving them 22 for the series.

"You've got to tip your cap to them," Royals manager Matt Quatraro said. "They're not chasing. They're not expanding. But we also have to do a better job of limiting those for sure."

It was the first playoff game at Kauffman Stadium in 3,268 days, since the Royals beat the Mets in Game 2 of the 2015 World Series; they won their first title in 30 years a few days later in New York. The first baseman on that Royals team, Eric Hosmer, was on hand to deliver the first pitch for a crowd that included Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes.

DODGERS 8, PADRES 0

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Mookie Betts homered for the second straight night, Shohei Ohtani hit an RBI single and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat Dylan Cease and the San Diego Padres 8-0 on Wednesday night to force a deciding Game 5 in their tense NL Division Series.

Will Smith and Gavin Lux each hit a two-run homer for the Dodgers, who snapped a two-game losing streak and now return home for the next matchup between the NL West rivals on Friday night.

"We have a bunch of grinders, a bunch of fighters," Betts said after the Dodgers posted the largest shutout win in franchise postseason history. "We knew it wasn't going to be easy."

The Padres won 10-2 at Dodger Stadium in Game 2 on Sunday night, when tempers flared on the field and in the stands.

The winner will have home-field advantage in the National League Championship Series against the New York Mets, who eliminated the Philadelphia Phillies in their NLDS.

"I'm proud. ... Your desire's got to be more than your opponent's," Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said. "To see our guys go through what they've been through, and respond the way they have, it makes me excited about Game 5."

The Dodgers got a superb effort by opener Ryan Brasier and seven fellow relievers in a bullpen game, holding the Padres to seven hits and extending their scoreless streak to 15

innings. Evan Phillips, who got the win, retired Jurickson Profar, Manny Machado and Jackson Merrill on five pitches in the sixth.

"Overall the guys were efficient, understanding that they're going to have to do up/downs, go a little bit longer potentially," Roberts said. "So the efficiency of the strike zone was huge and it gives us options for Game 5."

The Dodgers hushed the Petco Park-record crowd of 47,773 that had hoped to see San Diego eliminate LA in the NLDS for the second time in three seasons.

TIGERS 3, GUARDIANS 0

DETROIT (AP)—Riley Greene and Spencer Torkelson each drove in a run, and six pitchers combined to lift the Detroit Tigers to a 3-0 win over Cleveland Guardians on Wednesday and a 2-1 lead in their AL Division Series.

The Tigers, baseball's hottest team the past two months, will have their first chance to advance to the American League Championship Series since 2013 on Thursday night in Game 4 at Comerica Park.

"We're human," Torkelson said. "We know how close we are."

Cleveland has gone 20 straight innings without scoring since opening the series with a five-run first and a two-run sixth in its 7-0 win. Steven Kwan had three of its six hits in Game 3.

"Short sample size, obviously in the playoffs it's a lot more magnified," David Fry said after going 0 for 3 with two strikeouts, contributing to the team's eight runners left on base. "I think guys have hit balls hard. Balls aren't really falling."

After AL Cy Young Award favorite Tarik Skubal helped Detroit shut out Cleveland in Game 2, manager A.J. Hinch put a stream of pitchers on the mound and kept the Guardians quiet at the plate.

Detroit reliever Will Vest entered with two on and two outs in the seventh, and Fry lined to a leaping Matt Vierling at third.

"He likes to pull the ball a lot, so I was ready for anything that came my way," Vierling said. "I didn't have time to think. I just had to react."

Fans were fired up all day, chanting "Let's go Tigers!" before the first playoff pitch in Detroit since 2014, and 44,885 were in the stands for the largest crowd in Comerica Park's 25-year history.

"This is a huge victory for us, just to see the stadium and the whole city come out for the first playoff game in a decade," Vierling said.

Hurricane Milton damages roof of Rays' stadium



Max Watts, of Buford, Ga., walks in the parking lot to check on a trailer parked outside the hotel where he is riding out Hurricane Milton with coworkers, Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2024, in Tampa, Fla.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—The roof panels over the home of baseball's Tampa Bay Rays were ripped to shreds after Hurricane Milton

came ashore in Florida on Wednesday night, bringing wind gusts exceeding 100 mph and flooding parts of the state.

It was not immediately clear if there was damage inside Tropicana Field, located in St. Petersburg. Television images showed the swaths that serve as the domed building's roof were completely tattered, giving a clear line of sight to the lights that were on inside the stadium.

There were only essential personnel inside the ballpark Wednesday night, all of them safe and accounted for, the Rays said. It was not being used as a shelter and no first responders were being

staged there, the team said, adding that no official determination about damage can be made until the storm passes and conditions are safe.

The team previously said that Tropicana Field features the world's largest cable-supported domed roof, with the panels made of "translucent, Teflon-coated fiberglass" supported by 180 miles of cables connected by struts.

The roof was designed to withstand wind of up to 115 mph, according to the Rays. The stadium opened in 1990 and initially cost \$138 million. It is due to be replaced in time for the 2028 season with a \$1.3 billion ballpark.

An NBA preseason game in Orlando between the Magic and the New Orleans Pelicans, scheduled for Friday, was canceled even be-

fore Milton hit the state. The game will not be rescheduled.

Orlando was playing at San Antonio on Wednesday night and was scheduled to return to central Florida on Thursday. Those plans are now in flux because of the storm, which made landfall near Siesta Key, Florida. It forced the airports in Orlando and Tampa to close and it wasn't clear when it would be safe for the Magic to return home.

"There's always things bigger than the game of basketball and that's what we have to keep our perspective on," Magic coach Jamahl Mosley said. "Knowing that there's families and homes and situations that are going through a tough time right now, we need to be mindful of that and conscious of it."

The Magic-Pelicans game is the second NBA preseason

matchup to be affected by Milton. A game scheduled for Thursday in Miami between the Heat and Atlanta Hawks was postponed until Oct. 16 because of storm concerns. Also called off earlier this week: a rescheduled NHL preseason game on Friday in Tampa between the Lightning and Predators—one that was originally set to be played last month and was postponed because of Hurricane Helene.

"Stay safe Florida!" former Tampa Bay star Steven Stamkos, who is entering his first season with Nashville, posted on social media Wednesday. "Thinking about all the amazing people in the Tampa area right now."

Countless college and high school events in Florida also have been canceled or postponed because of the storm.

For now, two planned exhibitions by Simone Biles

and other Olympic gymnasts—part of the "Gold

Over America Tour," the acronym not coincidentally spelling out GOAT in a nod to Biles' status as the consensus Greatest Of All-Time in the sport—this weekend are still on. The tour is scheduled to come to Sunrise, the home of the Stanley Cup champion Florida Panthers, on Friday and then move to Orlando on Saturday.

Gulfstream Park in Hallandale Beach, which is north of Miami, is scheduled to resume live racing on Friday. Saturday's college football game with Cincinnati going to Orlando to face UCF is still on, and the Memphis-South Florida game in Tampa was rescheduled earlier this week to be played Saturday.

UCF and USF officials have both said further decisions will be made, if necessary, after the storm damage is evaluated.

NBA BRIEFS

Clippers and P.J. Tucker agree he won't be with team while they try to find him different spot

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Los Angeles Clippers and P.J. Tucker have agreed he won't be with the team for the time being while it tries to find the veteran forward a different situation. Tucker came to the Clippers last season from the Philadelphia 76ers as part of the trade for James Harden. He appeared in 28 games while averaging 1.6 points and 2.5 rebounds. The 39-year-old picked up his \$11.5 million player option for the upcoming season. It's the final year of a \$33 million, three-year deal he signed with the 76ers in 2022. In February, Tucker publicly said he was actively trying to get traded after not appearing in any games for nearly three months. That resulted in him being fined \$75,000 by the NBA. "P.J. is a pro who has achieved a lot in his career and there's more he wants to accomplish," the Clippers said Sunday in a statement. "We will continue working with P.J. and his representative to find the best situation for him moving forward."

Magic agree to contract extension with center Wendell Carter Jr.

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—The Orlando Magic agreed to a contract extension with center Wendell Carter Jr. on Monday. Carter averaged 11 points on 52.5% shooting in 55 games last season to help the Magic reach the postseason. Carter, the No. 7 pick in the 2018 NBA draft, is set to make \$12 million this season.

Terms of the extension were not disclosed. The 6-foot-10 Carter played one season at Duke before he was selected by Chicago. The Magic acquired him from the Bulls on March 25, 2021. He has averaged 12.5 points and 8.5 rebounds in 315 career games.

Mavs guard Dante Exum has wrist surgery as team offers no timeline for return

DALLAS (AP)—Dallas Mavericks guard Dante Exum had surgery on his injured right wrist, the team announced Wednesday, without saying how long he will be sidelined. The injury to Exum came during training camp in Las Vegas and after star guard Luka Doncic had injured his calf in a workout. Guard Kyrie Irving broke a thumb while working out not long after the Mavericks lost to Boston in five games in the NBA Finals in June. Irving has said he is progressing well. Dallas opens the season Oct. 24 at home against San Antonio. Exum, who had the surgery on Tuesday, is entering his second season with the Mavericks after the fifth overall pick in the 2015 draft spent the previous two years playing overseas. The 29-year-old Australian averaged 7.8 points in 55 games with 17 starts last regular season. His playing time was sporadic in the playoffs, where he averaged 2.0 points while playing in 21 of Dallas' 22 games. The loss of Exum for an extended time would affect the depth at guard for the Mavs, who added former Golden State star Klay Thompson in the offseason.

CP3 makes exhibition debut with the Spurs, sets up Wemby for dunk with 1st assist

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Chris Paul and Victor Wembanyama seem to already be clicking.

Paul—a 12-time All-Star entering his 20th season in the NBA—made his preseason debut with San Antonio on Wednesday night, getting a loud ovation from his new home crowd when he was the final player announced as part of the Spurs' starting lineup against the Orlando Magic.

And his first assist in his new uniform was fitting—an alley-oop lob that set Wembanyama up for a dunk late in the first quarter. Paul finished with five points and three assists, two of them to Wembanyama, in 23 minutes.

"Felt very natural. Felt like it was the good play," Wembanyama said of that first lob from Paul. "And he's making a lot of good plays."

The Spurs are Paul's seventh NBA franchise and when he makes his regular-season debut—preseason games don't count for anything official—the 6-foot guard will become the 11th player to appear in 20 NBA seasons.

"He's so wise and he's got so much experience," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said of Paul after San Antonio's 107-97 win. "Sometimes I get mesmerized just listening to him say things to players. 'I should have thought of that,' that kind of thing. He mentors them well and he does it the right way."

Vince Carter played in 22 seasons, a record that LeBron James will tie when he makes his first appearance this season. Robert Parish, Kevin Willis, Kevin Garnett and Dirk Nowitzki all played 21 seasons, and four other play-

ers—Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Kobe Bryant, Jamal Crawford and Udonis Haslem—reached the 20-season mark.

Paul is also third on the NBA's all-time assist list with 11,894. He's 197 shy of Jason Kidd (12,097) for No. 2 on that list, and John Stockton holds the record with 15,806.

"Being on the court with him certainly feels like he's got things in control," Wembanyama said. "It's reassuring, a little bit. It's one more teammate I can rely on in tough moments or doubt moments. It's only positive."

Paul's first game with the Spurs was one of many notable debuts that will occur throughout the preseason by top players who'll be in new uniforms this season. Among them: Russell Westbrook debuted with Denver in Abu Dhabi last week, Karl-An-

thony Towns had 10 points in 15 minutes Sunday in his first exhibition as part of the New York Knicks, and DeMar DeRozan appeared in a preseason game with Sacramento for the first time Wednesday against Golden State.

Evidently, DeRozan is still learning his way around. "Which way do I go?" DeRozan asked as he walked into the arena. But on the court, he was a quick study—the first points of Sacramento's preseason came on DeRozan's trademark midrange jumper.

On Thursday, Klay Thompson—who has only played for Golden State, until now—is expected to make his preseason debut for Dallas. Still unclear: when Paul George will make his preseason debut for Philadelphia, which doesn't play another exhibition until Friday.

Inter-gov't/biz hoops league set for Oct. 28



LEIGH GASES

File photo shows Office of the Governor's Athan Taisague, right, getting fouled by Priority Care's Steven King after a layup attempt during their game in the Inaugural R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business League 2023 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By **LEIGH GASES**
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REPORTER



The 2nd Annual R&J Wine and Liquor Inter-Gov't/Business

League 2024 is now set with 12 teams and is slated to start

on Monday, Oct. 28, at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

There are six government teams—last season's champions PSS and CPA, CHCC, Feds, DFEMS, and CUC. The business teams are last year's runner-up Priority Care, and Marpac, Docomo, IT&E, Foremost (Coca-Cola/Subway), and E-Land.

The first game on Oct. 28 is a finals rematch between defending champions PSS and Priority Care.

The rest of the teams will draw on Oct. 15 when the organizer—Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation—and the teams meet for the final rosters and employment verifications.

WSR

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quietly, but GES 1 picked it up once again with a goal by Jacob Borja in the 36th minute. Sawikan then put them up, 5-0 a minute later. Poole doubled his goal with another in the 42nd, then Pangelinan followed his lead just a minute later too for the eventual 7-0 final.

The other Garapan team won in a much closer game, 2-1 over San Vicente Elementary School Canaries 2.

Although the Canaries' Amica Hornilla struck first in the seventh, GES 2 had the last say as Pritam Roy tied it up in the 19th. Then, Adrian Mercado took the one-goal lead in the 25th which held as the Canaries failed to produce more as time expired.

As for SIS, they beat Kagman Elementary School Blue Marlins, 3-1.

The Geckos scored their three goals before the Blue Marlins even scored their lone goal. SIS' Kaylen Taflinger put the first goal on

the board in the 19th minute, followed by silence. The next goal was made in the 36th by Gabriel Walsh, then the third was slotted in the 44th by Guy Pudney.

The lone goal by the Blue Marlins dribbled in just a minute later in the 45th as they avoided being shutout, but settled for the loss when their offense still fell short.

The semis are set for today at 4pm. The championship and third place game are scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 17.

MP

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game. However, Fiona Regan gave MPU the advantage once more in the 45th then Jang wrapped it up with their fourth goal in the 53rd.

As for Kanoa, they shut out Paire, 4-0.

It was a struggle for possession early on but Kanoa managed to pull away after their first goal in the 22nd by Beatrice Gross. It only went

uphill from there as another goal slipped past in the 46th for a 2-0 game.

Then in extra time, Faith Arriola and Miley Mafnas added the two goals which eventually became the final, 4-0 as Paire could not find an open path to Kanoa's territory.

In other divisions, MP United blanked the Women's Developmental Team, 2-0, in the U17 boys, and Kanoa and Matansa FC ended

in a 2-2 draw.

In the U14 boys division, Kanoa FC 1 slipped past Latte FC, 2-1; Matansa drubbed Shirley's FC, 5-1; and MP United overpowered Paire, 14-0. In the U14 girls division, Kanoa and MP United were even at 2-2; Shirley's silenced Paire, 4-0; and in the U12 boys division, Kanoa FC 1 won over Latte, 5-1; Shirley's defeated Matansa, 3-1; and MP United blanked Paire, 7-0.

According to NMIBF president James Lee, the league is strictly for businesses and government agencies. "Players must be employed at a company for more than two months," he said.

The entrance fee was \$800

per team and didn't include uniforms. CNMI Design/Hagu Real had offered a special rate as part of their sponsorship for the league and gave \$35 per full set of uniforms (no set up fees), a banner, and a towel for each player.

Games will be played round-robin in the regular season with the Top 7 teams advancing to the single elimination playoff. The number one seeded team in the regular season will get a bye.

"NMIBF wants to thank our title sponsor R&J Wine and Liquor and our corporate sponsor Hagu Real," said Lee.

Red zone woes play a big role in the early season struggles for the 49ers



SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)—

Driving into the red zone hasn't been a problem early this season for the San Francisco 49ers, who have gotten past the opponent's 20-yard line more than all but one team in the NFL.

Finishing those drives with touchdowns has been a major issue in a stark turnaround from last season when the Niners were the most efficient team in the NFL when it came to scoring touchdowns in the red zone.

The lack of ability to get into the end zone from in close played a major role in San Francisco's latest loss as the Niners were limited to one touchdown on six trips inside the 20 in a 24-23 loss to the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday.

"We've had some opportunities," quarterback Brock Purdy said Tuesday. "I think that's an area for me to be better for

sure. Trust the plays, trust the concepts, trust my guys, and being willing to go down there and rip it. ... The windows get tighter and the timing of it is quicker and faster. For me it's about getting back into a rhythm down there and giving my guys a chance."

Purdy had one glaring miss last week against Arizona when he threw late and slightly off-target to tight end George Kittle, turning a potential walk-in touchdown into a play that went out of bounds at the 2. An incomplete pass on the next play led to a short field goal.

But the problems have been far deeper than that.

The 49ers (2-3) rank fourth worst in the NFL by converting 40.9% of red zone drives into touchdowns, down from a league-best rate of 67.2% in 2023. A major difference this season has been the absence of reigning AP Offensive Player of the Year Christian McCaffrey, who was tied for the league high with 18 of San

Francisco's 45 red zone touchdowns a year ago.

Coach Kyle Shanahan said it's hard to put a finger on a theme for the issues.

"I think we need to be much more effective running it," he said. "When you run the ball twice, you'd like to get in and not just put one pressure third down on the pass game. And when you do throw it more, then you've got to make sure you come through with those, especially not having a negative play with those. Running the ball better takes a lot of pressure off, also gives some better passing looks. We've tried both and haven't been good enough with both of those. So it's all aspects of offense."

While Jordan Mason has done a capable job filling in for McCaffrey by ranking second in the league with 536 yards rushing, he hasn't been as effective near the goal line with the third-worst success rate on red zone runs among players with at least 10 attempts.

HER

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in basketball, addressing the glaring lack of opportunities for girls in the sport. "We do not have much of a big pool for our women's basketball or girls; we don't even have a youth basketball league," Lumabi explains. With the aim of creating a pathway for young athletes, the program focuses on entry-level training and the development of female coaches, encouraging a new generation to engage with the sport.

A key component of this initiative is the emphasis on 3x3 basketball, which Lumabi believes offers a more intimate and engaging environment for young players. "3x3 will grow the individual as a player and also their basketball IQ," she notes, highlighting how the format's faster pace demands constant movement and teamwork. This structure not only nurtures individual skills but also prepares participants for the traditional 5x5 game.

The impact of the program is evident through the voices of participants like 12-year-old Chloe Enriquez from Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle

School and 13-year-old Santo Baidya from Hopwood Middle School. Enriquez, who joined the program to improve her skills, initially felt nervous on her first day, surrounded by new faces. However, she quickly discovered a supportive environment that allowed her to thrive. "Over time, it was really fun, and I liked it," she recalls, emphasizing how the activities helped her grow. "The shooting and the dribbling... it made my confidence go higher."

Enriquez highlighted the significance of teamwork, stating, "I learned that teamwork is a big thing in basketball," a lesson that resonates deeply in the collaborative atmosphere of the program.

Baidya, who had never considered basketball until discovering this program, found herself inspired by her peers. "They definitely inspired me to keep going," she shares, admiring the skill and enthusiasm of the other girls. Her initial challenges with dribbling, where the ball kept slipping from her fingers, became opportunities for growth thanks to the supportive coaches. "They told me to take my time, and they made

me feel comfortable playing the game," she explains, illustrating the program's commitment to building confidence.

Both Enriquez and Baidya expressed a newfound passion for the sport and an eagerness to continue their basketball journeys. Enriquez affirmed, "Yes, I do see myself continuing basketball after this program," while Baidya echoed her enthusiasm, stating, "I want to play even more... I think it's fun, and I could get the hang of the basic skills." The program also pays special attention to shy participants, creating an environment where friendships can flourish. Lumabi actively works to encourage shy girls to connect with new friends and build a sense of sisterhood. "We want to grow the interest for basketball," she affirms, emphasizing that the program is about much more than just athletic skill.

As the "Her World, Her Rules" program continues to empower young girls, it stands as a vital step toward equality in sports, nurturing not just athletes but confident, collaborative young women ready to take on the world.



Lindor's grand slam
sends Mets into
NLCS with 4-1 win
over Phillies.

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Inter-gov't/biz
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

WSR 1, SIS, GES teams in soccer semis



NMIFA
A Saipan International School player, left, chases after the ball as a Kagman Elementary School player is right beside her during the quarterfinals of the 2024-2025 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Elementary School Soccer League last Wednesday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

William S. Reyes Elementary School Kingfishers 1 upset defending champions Koblerville Elementary School Umangs 1 in a thrilling shootout for a semis spot, while Saipan International School Geckos and both teams of Garapan Elementary School Mallards punched their tickets into the semis as well in the 2024-2025 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Elementary School Soccer League.



NMIFA
A Koblerville Elementary School player, left, goes up against a William S. Reyes Elementary School player during the quarterfinals of the 2024-2025 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Elementary School Soccer League last Wednesday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



The Kingfishers stood their ground against the Umangs and came away with the win in dramatic fashion—1-0 in a shootout—after a 3-3 regulation last Wednesday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Both teams were tied, 2-2, by the 23rd minute after WSR's Liam Palacios found the back of the net. But KobES' Darshwana Chhetri completed the hat-trick and put them in the lead again just three minutes later, 3-2.

Silence reigned in the second half until WSR's Andrey Ray doubled his goal count and tied up the match again in the 40th minute. From there, regulation expired and the winner was determined on a PK—which KobES failed to score, while WSR netted the winning goal.

In the first game of the day, GES 1 blanked Saipan Community School Guardians, 7-0.

It was a one-sided game from the get-go as Keanu Pangelinan drew first blood just two minutes in. That set the pace for the Mallards to go on a tear with two back-to-back goals—one by Evan Poole, and the other by Athitaya Sawikan by the 9th minute for a 3-0 game.

The first half then went
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MP United, Kanoa U17 girls nip foes in TYSL

By LEIGH GASES
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NMIFA

Kanoa Football Club's U17 girls division Joselynn Atalig, center, goes up against Paire players during one of their games in the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2024 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



NMIFA

An MP United U17 girls division player, left, and a Shirley's player struggles for possession during their game in the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2024 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Saturday.



MP United Football Club and Kanoa Football Club's U17 girls teams nipped their foes in the continuation of the TakeCare Youth Soccer League Fall 2024 at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Saturday.

MP United doubled Shirley's goals to win, 4-2. While Shirley's got first dibs with a goal to open up the game in the 16th by Alyssa Borlongan, MPU's Yeji Jang quickly tied it up in the 23rd.

A long battle for the upper hand and possession ensued in the next second half as both teams could not find the back of the net. But when MPU got going again, they capitalized on their momentum to secure the win.

The second goal for MPU was made by Addalee Taflinger in the 40th, but it was all knotted up again as Borlongan replied just two minutes later for a 2-2

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'Her World, Her Rules' changing the game for young female athletes

By JERCY DIANA MAXIMO
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In a sports landscape often dominated by boys, a transformative initiative is redefining the

rules for young girls eager to step onto the court. The "Her World, Her Rules" basketball program, now in its third year, is not just about teaching girls how to play basketball; it's about empowering them to take charge of their athletic

journeys and building a supportive community around the game.

Launched by NMIBF board member Marlene Lumabi and the NMIBF, the program seeks to cultivate female talent

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JERCY DIANA MAXIMO

Participants of the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation "Her World, Her Rules" program pose for a photo with NMIBF board member Marlene Lumabi, third from the left, after completing Day 1 of the program last Saturday afternoon at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.